

Site M: 26/7/2

Greene House

11 Laird Street

Built: 1891

Private

William Richards, who owned the bakery and confectionary, paid Jacob Isanogle \$2,500 in 1891 to build this turreted Queen Anne/Eastlake style home on his lot in the newly platted West End Park. The 2½ story frame house has eight rooms with a "witches hat" corner turret and turned spindle-work portiere across the front verandah. It is virtually unaltered and has been the home of a former Mayor of Rockville and his family for 26 years.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. M:26/7/2

Magi No. 1650082604

DOE   yes   no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Greene house

## 2. Location

street & number 11 Laird Street    not for publicationcity, town Rockville    vicinity of    congressional district 8state Maryland    county Montgomery

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>  </u> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<u>  </u> military
			<u>  </u> museum
			<u>  </u> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<u>  </u> religious
			<u>  </u> scientific
			<u>  </u> transportation
			<u>  </u> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Alexander and Jayne Greenestreet & number 11 Laird Street telephone no. 762-4774city, town Rockville state and zip code Maryland 20850

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Land Records liber 2467street & number Montgomery County Courthouse folio 9city, town Rockville state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title National Register (West Montgomery Avenue Historic District) - 1974  
Locally designated historic district - 1974date M-NCPPC - 1976 ☒ federal ☒ state ☒ county ☒ localpository for survey records City of Rockvillecity, town Rockville state Maryland 20850

## 7. Description

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### Condition

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

### Check one

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This 2 1/2 story wood framed and clad house faces west on Laird Street. It is an irregularly shaped Queen Anne Victorian with a brick foundation and gabled roof covered with the original slate. The main (west) facade is a front-facing gable of three bays with an adjoining tower on the northwest end. German siding covers outside surfaces, and there are plain cornerboards and projecting cornices. The eaves overhang approximately fourteen inches and form returns on the pitched west facade, suggesting a classical pediment motif. The intersecting gables of the roofline are typical of Queen Anne styling.

A raised porch extends the width of the facade, and is reached by four steps. The concrete-block foundation of the porch is a mid-20th century alterations. The porch, supported by seven turned posts, has square balusters on the railing, running frieze, and scroll brackets. A small pediment of vertical bead board on the porch roof above the steps articulates the main entry. The raised and moulded front door has dual glass panels and a transom light.

Windows throughout the house are two-over-two wooden sashed, except for those on the tower which are single-paned double-hung. All exterior openings are framed by plain wood sills and board surrounds, capped by cornice window beads. Adorning most windows are fixed slate louvered shutters with original hinges and hardware. However, aluminum storm windows now prevent their usage. The two attic windows are mid-20th century, alterations.

The tower supports an octagonal turret containing paneled boarding, denticulated moulding, and a steeply pitched tent roof of diamond-patterned slate; it is capped by a round finial.

The south facade of the house contains a "Rockville bay"; this three-sided projection has a gable pediment, second floor rectangular shape and first floor mitred corners with decorative brackets. A lean-to addition on the east (rear) side houses a kitchen addition.

The Greenes believe that the original section of the house is that over the basement. Not too long after the original house was constructed, the front porch was extended to the west (the original entrance door was perhaps 2 feet east of the present), and the tower and den/bedroom wing added; this north section was built over crawl space and of lesser quality than the main block. Later the rear wing, which extended the kitchen, added the laundry room downstairs, and the sleeping porch and bathroom on the second floor, was affixed, perhaps in two stages.

Mature trees and a variety of shrubbery cloak the shallow front and deep rear yards. "Dutchman's pipe" is woven through the front porch openings. A large shed is located to the east of the house, but other outbuildings (barn, shed, ice house) have been gone for some time.

## 8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	1891	Builder/Architect	Jacob Isanogle
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check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☒ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The West End Park subdivision encompassed 183 acres. As planned and platted by Henry Copp in 1889, it included park and lakes, its own hotel, churches and a train station, with wide boulevards and avenues along which would be built elegant villas or country cottage.<sup>1</sup> Although Copp sold over 200 lots in the first two years, only a handful of houses were built; all Laird was one of them. This verandahed and turreted Queen Anne/Eastlake style house typified what Copp envisioned in his new subdivision. But Copp's dream failed, and Laird Street was unadorned except for this house for many years. This 1891 house has remained virtually unaltered.

William Richards purchased lot 17 of Section One of "West End Park" for \$325 in 1890 and arranged a \$1,500 mortgage with a Tennessee Company for construction costs of the house.<sup>2</sup> Richards had been in Rockville for several years, operating the Mulfinger Bakery and Confectionery shop. In 1889 he had bought the bakery outright and added a new sideline. In the Land Records are recorded several leases and deeds for newly-patented copper apparatus and marble counters to be used in his business; it is likely that Richards was introducing the "soda foundation" to Rockville.<sup>3</sup>

In 1890 Jacob Isanogle was building his home immediately south of the Richards lot (See Survey Site #26/7/2). Richards contracted with Isanogle to build a neight room 2 1/2 story house for \$2,500; the contract was let in late 1890 after the building season, so the house was probably built in spring of 1891.<sup>4</sup>

In 1894 Richards purchased the adjacent lot to the north (Lot 18) from Copp, who was desperately trying to hang on to his development; however, the financial panic of 1893, combined with law suits and saturation of the market, made failure certain. The 1895 Tax Assessment for William Richards read "Lot 17 & 18, Section One, West End Park valued at \$400 with \$2,250 improvement on lot 17".

Anna Richards was the widow of William and living in Pennsylvania when she sold 11 Laird Street to J. W. Bogley in 1915. Bogley was a grocer in West Washington, and lived here until 1935.

The house was owned by the Young family and later Perry Burdette; both were County natives and local business people. Mr. Burdette sold the northern sections of the property in 1957, and later owners constructed two houses there. Burdette sold the house at 11 Laird Street to Alexander and Jayne Greene in 1958.

#8 CONTINUATION P. 8.1

Alex Greene served as City Councilman and was elected Mayor of Rockville in 1958. During their residency, the Greenes have made several interior changes to the house--- uniting a parlor and dining room to make the present living room, using space formerly occupied by a back stairway to enlarge the kitchen, and adding two bedrooms in the attic (at that time losing the original attic window which the City of Rockville insisted must be replaced with larger double windows). During c.1970-73 the Greenes excavated the site of the ice house behind the house, recovering about 4,000 bottles of various sizes and shapes (including several with J. W. Bogley's imprimatur).<sup>5</sup>

1. Montgomery County Land Records, Plat Book A, folios 42 & 43. "West End Park" has been replatted many times since.
2. Land Records, JA 21/385 and JA 24/138.
3. In 1910 Mr. Richards also owned 5 acres referred to as "The Old Brick Yard".
4. Copp heavily promoted his development, including publication of a 21-page brochure showing photos of Rockville houses newly finished or then under construction. All of these houses (except Mr. Isanogle's) were outside of the West End Park subdivision; surely if 11 Laird were under construction by the fall, 1890 brochure date, he would have included a photograph of it.
5. The Greenes believe that when the barn was demolished, its contents were used to fill in the below-ground ice house, and that this area was used for refuse until it was filled. This probably occurred during the Bogley residency.



## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. M: 26/7/2

Montgomery County Land, Tax, Equity and Plat Records  
Montgomery County Sentinel; Washington Evening Star (1890-93)  
Peerless Rockville promotional brochure, Edition of Oct. 1890  
General histories  
Interviews with Mr. and Mrs. Greene

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 13,620 square feet

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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H 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

11,391 square feet of Lot 17 and 2,229 square feet of Lot 18,  
as per Plat A-43 and Plat 64-5716

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

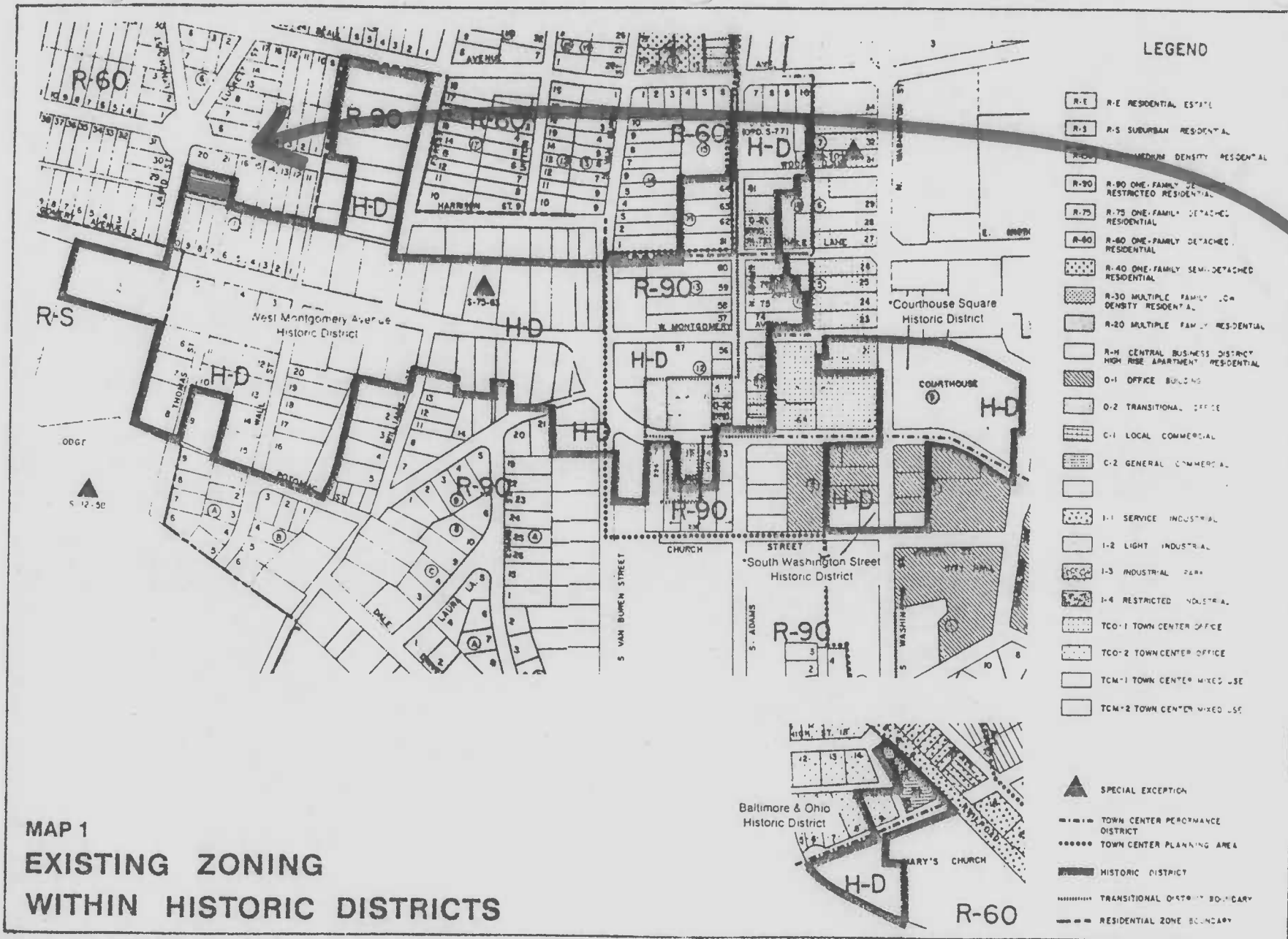
## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Anne W. Cissel/Glen Leiner, arch. desc.organization Peerless Rockvilledate August 1984street & number P.O. Box 4262telephone 762-0096city or town Rockvillestate Maryland 20850

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by  
an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated  
Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and  
record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of  
individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438



\*Note: For discussion and planning purposes South Washington Street and the Courthouse Square district are considered independent Historic Districts even though they are shown on the existing zoning map as one district.





M: 26/7/2

GREENE HOUSE

11 Laird St.

WEST/SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

RICHARD H. ANDREWS  
1608 Farragut Avenue  
Rockville, Maryland 20851

1010-3

AUGUST, 1984.